

Occasional Numismatic Papers No. 4

The idea behind these *Papers* is simply to create a fresh venue for interesting research on numismatic topics along with a forum for numismatic notes and queries. Because these *Papers* will be occasional, they will not appear at fixed intervals and there is no certain date when the next will appear.

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Editors

- Chris Faulkner: chris.faulkner@carleton.ca
- Jacob Lipson: jacoblipsonrarecoins@gmail.com

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About the Contributors

Jacob Lipson is a professional numismatist and owner of Jacob Lipson Rare Coins in Ottawa, Ontario. He serves as president of the Ottawa Numismatic Society and is currently working on an update of Joseph Leroux's medal listings in his *Le Médailleur du Canada / The Canadian Coin Cabinet* (1892).

Markus Molenda is an independent numismatic researcher who has been active for many years in the Edmonton Numismatic Society.

Jeff Ogborne is interested in overstrikes and is currently researching the undertypes of the Canadian Wellington tokens, with particular attention to the tokens of Samuel Guppy.

Letters to the Editors

Markus Molenda writes:

Thank you for your excellent article on the P.E.I token!

I did some digging, and here are some thoughts about the possible maker of the DAN. CAMPBELL. / BOSTON. countermark.



As you indicate in your article, the tailor Daniel (W.) Campbell is indeed the only fitting name in Boston city directories during the entire time Dennis McCarthy ran his store in Charlottetown (1831-41). That he moved for some reason from big town Boston to the more rural PEI to work as a tailor and then return to Boston seems unlikely, however. Hence, it is probable that he lived in Boston during the entire period from 1832 to 1857 and, more importantly, during the period when the P.E.I token was produced and circulated. That implies that the tailor Daniel (W.) Campbell would not have had the opportunity to obtain the P.E.I token.

The countermark does not have to be contemporary with Dennis McCarthy, of course. Another Daniel Campbell could have moved to Boston after living in PEI during McCarthy's time and then countermarked the token later on perhaps as a pendant commemorating his time in PEI, or as a unique property tag to be attached to something.

A search of Boston census records from 1840 to 1900 reveals one candidate, in the 1880 US census, living on Bremen place in East Boston: Daniel Campbell, age 58, ship carpenter, born in PEI.

The 1881 Boston city directory also shows Daniel W. Campbell, carpenter, living at 4 Bremen pl., E. B. He also appears under that exact name (with the W. initial) in earlier directories, at various addresses, as early as 1874. Since the family does not appear in the 1870 US census in Boston, they must have moved to Boston between 1870 and 1874.

Given the above timeline, Daniel W. Campbell, the carpenter, meets the desired criteria to have lived in PEI during McCarthy's time, and to have moved to Boston thereafter. So, we have at least one candidate for a potential countermarker, although he does not appear to have had a close connection to Dennis McCarthy. A City of Boston death certificate, very likely for the above carpenter, offers additional information:

name: Daniel Campbell

date of death: Sept 28, 1903
age at death: 86
profession: carpenter
place of birth: Fairfield, P.E.I.
father: Angus Campbell
mother: Mary McIntire
place of burial: St. Joseph

Ray Malone writes:

I did get the corrected ONP and I very much appreciate you following up on the reissue. I also took the opportunity to reread your paper with Ted on the Dennis McCarthy P.E.I 1d. I have attached images of my examples. They are interesting because the weights vary so dramatically. The holed example weighs 9.29 grams the other example weighs 18.87 grams.



The Trade & Navigation / Pure Copper Halfpennies (Breton 963): A Look at Thick and Thin Flans

Jeff Ogborne

As part of my ongoing research, I recently had occasion to review the commentaries on the Breton 963 halfpennies now ascribed to Nova Scotia which bear the TRADE & NAVIGATION legend on the obverse and the PURE COPPER PREFERABLE TO PAPER slogan on the reverse. Halfpennies were issued dated 1812 and 1813, the latter accompanied by a farthing and a penny, although it is only the halfpennies which will concern me here.



Figure 1. Obverse and reverse of Trade & Navigation 1812 halfpenny.



Figure 2. Obverse and reverse of Trade & Navigation 1813 halfpenny.

Back at least to Courteau, these have been found to exist in two varieties, on thick and thin flans. Courteau only mentioned this explicitly in reference to the 1812 issue.¹ but R.C. Willey writing in the late 1970's made the application to both explicit: "Both dates exist on thick and thin flans" (Willey 1979: 502). This distinction has been maintained through to the latest edition of

¹ His numbers, Non-Local 6 and 7.

Charlton. While they are not given specific numbers, the flan varieties are referred to in the notes (Charlton 2023: 61).

What got me thinking more closely was the corresponding listing in the Withers catalogue (*British Copper Tokens 1811-1820*). Many Canadian tokens are cross-listed there, and these are among them. Withers makes reference to Charlton, but concludes “that there are not two types, simply a wide variation in weight” (Withers 1999: 204).² This seems to be a substantial disagreement that warrants further investigation. Looking into it more detail, what struck me was that each author, whether repeating the claim for thick and thin flans or not, provides us with insufficient information to identify any particular coin we are looking at. Setting aside the fact that no one is actually measuring thickness – it is serving in this discussion as a proxy for weight – how is a collector to tell one from the other in the absence of definitive criteria? Where does thin stop and thick begin?

Clearly investigation is warranted. Looking at the 1812 halfpenny, the Charlton weight range is the very narrow 8.8 to 9.2 grams (Charlton 2023: 62), which hardly seems to leave room to accommodate the two varieties! Willey comes across as more certain, confidently asserting that halfpennies “exist on flans weighing 120 or 150 grains” (Willey 1979: 502), or about 7.8 grams and 9.7 grams respectively. Withers records a different, broader range, from 8.45g to 9.73 (Withers 1999: 204). The same disparity occurs with the 1813 issue. Charlton records 8.8 to 9.5 grams (Charlton 2023: 61). Willey repeats the same values for both, as noted above, and Withers observes a similar, though even broader range from 8.08 to 9.80 (Withers 1999: 205).

So what is the truth? Are there neat heavy and light issues of these coins, as Willey proposes? Are there identifiable differences within the ranges provided? If so, what are the weights and accompanying ranges? The questions call out for data, measurements that can be recorded, assessed, reviewed, added to, and revised as needed.

With the help of my own collection, that of the Bank of Canada, and others to which I had access, I have started to assemble a dataset for each coin. Before we look at the data, a note about what I expected to see. If there were two distinct flans, I expected to see evidence of it in the dataset. While outliers will always exist, there should be clear plateaus, or clusters of values around certain weights that occur more often, allowing one to define the two flan weights and separate normal from outlier.

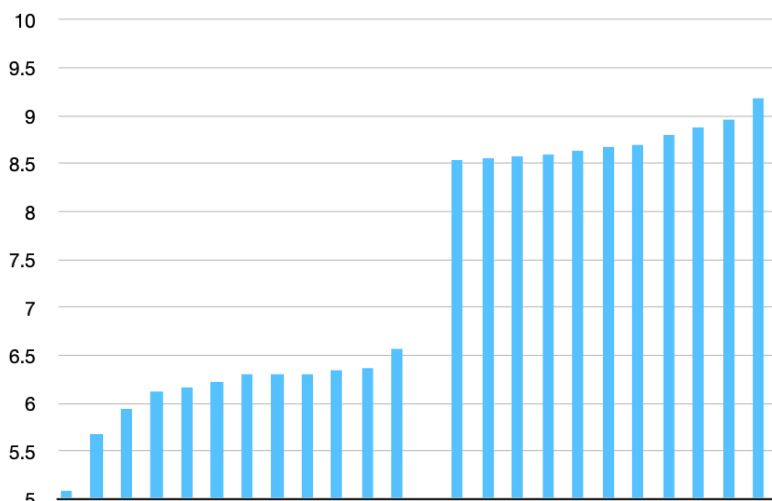


Figure 3. Obverse and reverse of Joseph Roy token. Courtesy The American Numismatic Society (acc. no. 1966.176.496).

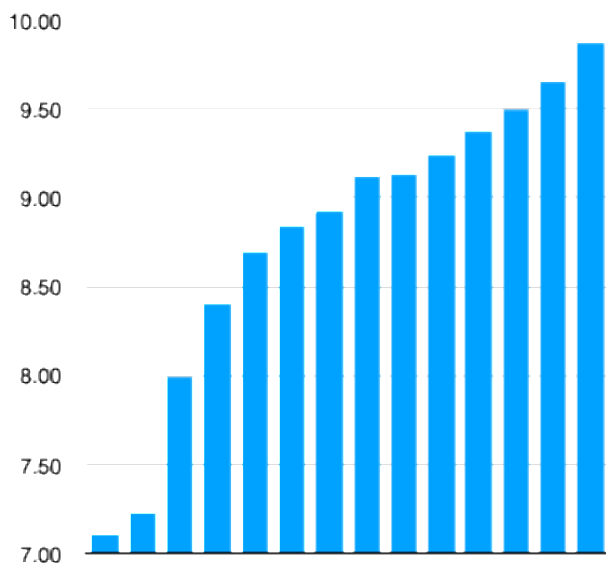
² Their reference numbers are 1655 and 1656.

As a control, I looked at a token where there exists a deep understanding of the history behind the existence of thick and thin (heavy and light) flans – two separate, documented orders for tokens, one accepted by the merchant and one refused as underweight – specifically the sous of J.H. Roy in Montreal, issued in 1837 (LC-20; Breton 671).

Even with a modest dataset (23 examples, 12 light and 11 heavy), the evidence of the Roy tokens is crystal-clear. Light flans with an average weight of 6.1 grams distinguish themselves from heavy ones averaging 8.7 grams, as evident as if they were lining up as opposing teams.



Distribution by weight in grams, J.H. Roy sou (Br.671)

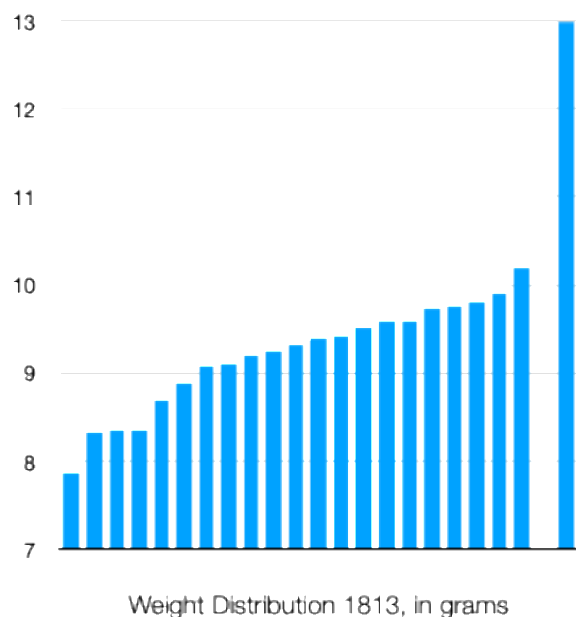


Distribution by Weight in grams, Br.963 1812

So with that in mind, we return to the Trade & Navigation halfpennies.³ While I would be more confident with a larger dataset, the initial evidence is pretty clear: there is no such plateau that would suggest or substantiate two distinct flan weights. Rather, there is, as Withers suggests, a fairly broad range of weights, but with individual coins evenly distributed throughout. In this dataset of 15 coins, we have already established a range from 7.1 grams to 9.9, which is significantly broader (and thus perhaps a larger sample size?) than any noted above, but with an overall average that sits at a very respectable 8.9 grams.

And the results are similar for the 1813 issue. With data on 21 examples available, we again see smooth distribution across a significant range of weights, with no evidence of plateaus or

³ I am aware that both of these coins occur overstruck on the Bristol halfpennies of Samuel Guppy. Analysis of any possible correlation will be left for another day; suffice it to say here that this does not affect the current study, as any distinction between flans would show in the datasets being presented no matter the cause.



clusters. I should note that the outlier, a bruiser weighing in at 13.07 grams, resides in the Bank of Canada Collection. If we set it aside and exclude it from the dataset as an anomaly, we still have a range from 7.9 grams to 10.2 grams, once again broader than any of those recorded elsewhere. And the average weight sits at a robust 9.2 grams, very close to the weight of contemporary regal British halfpennies at 9.45 grams.

Of course, these datasets can and will grow over time, and the conclusions drawn from them will become increasingly certain as they do so. My conclusion today should be considered an interim assessment, the evidence for now, and meant to initiate discussion, and hopefully elicit additional data. It should also caution both collectors and dealers to look at (and record) the actual weights of these coins, rather than simply attaching ill-defined

(or un-defined) descriptions like “thick and thin.”

In conclusion, I find no evidence in this data to support the observations of Courteau et al. Rather than thick and thin flans, what we see instead are coins that are lighter and heavier – thinner and thicker, if you wish – just considerable variability around an overall average weight that is quite sound for the time period. Individual weights are distributed evenly across a broad range, without any visible boundary in between, and suggest that any attempt to make such a distinction would ultimately be arbitrary. It would seem that the contemporary milieu, both in terms of coin production and circulation, was tolerant of this diversity, a conclusion I hope to examine in future research.

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Documents, Artifacts, Photographs:
Thomas Halliday's Will

Thomas
Halliday
3.

I Thomas Halliday of Birmingham a
in the County of Warwick sic dicitur being of sound and disposing
mind memory and understanding do make and publish my
last will and testament in manner following (that is to say) in
first I revoke all wills and testamentary papers by me at any
time heretofore made and appoint Allan Preston of Birmingham
aforesaid law Stationer sole Executor of this my will & give
and bequeath to the said Allan Preston his Executors and admin-
istrators all my stock in trade metal tools profits and all other in-
struments and utensils used and employed in and about my
business or that may be found in and about my workshops and
premises in Streetall Street Birmingham or elsewhere together
with my book debts monies and securities for monies and also all
my furniture plate linen china books pictures and other house-
hold utensils and effects (except such furniture plate linen china
books pictures and other articles in and about the house in which
I now reside as have been from time to time given by me to my
wives Ann Jane and Sarah Halliday and by them taken and receiv-
ed as their own) and all my real and personal *estate and effects what-*

soever and wheresoever To hold the same unto the said Allan Pre-
ston his Executors administrators and assigns according to the nature and
upon least to sell and dispose of such stock in trade implements and
furniture articles and real and personal estate and effects by publica
sale and also all other monies and effects which the said
said Allan Preston may become possessed of under this my will in
after payment of my just debts funeral and testamentary expenses
unto and equally between my three sisters Ann Halliday Jane in
Halliday and Sarah Halliday and their respective heirs Executors in
administrators and assigns to follow & bequeath the same amount
unto in equal shares as tenants in common In witness whereof
I have hereunto set my hand this fourth day of December one
signed by the said Thomas Halliday the Testator in the presence of
us who being present at the same time in his presence and in the
presence of others have hereunto subscribed our names as at
witnesses — e Anne Woodhouse — Mary James.

Proved at London 11th January 1845 before the Judge by the
part of Allan Preston the sole Executor to whom Adminon was
granted having been first sworn by Commission duly to admini?

I Thomas Halliday of Birmingham in the county of Warwick Die Sinker being of sound and disposed mind memory and understanding do make and publish my last will and testament in manner following, that is to say, first I revoke all wills and testamentary papers by me at any time heretofore made and appoint Allan Preston of Birmingham aforesaid law stationer sole Executor of this my will. I give and bequeath to the said Allan Preston his executors and administrators all my stock in trade metal dies presses and all other implements and utensils used and employed in and about my business or that may be found in and about my workshops and premises in Newhall Street Birmingham or elsewhere together with my book debts monies and securities for money and also my furniture plate linen china books pictures and other household utensils and effects (except such furniture plate linen china books pictures and other articles in and about the house in which I now reside as have been from time to time given by me to my nieces Ann, Jane, and Sarah Halliday and by them taken and now used as their own) and all my real and personal Estate and Effects whatsoever and wheresoever to hold the same unto the said Allan Preston his heirs executors administrators and assigns according to the nature and [~~~] thereof (upon least to sell and dispose such stock in trade implements and furniture articles and real and personal estate and effects by public auction or private contract and to pay and divide the produce of such sale and also all other monies and effects which he the said Allan Preston may become possessed of under this my will after payment of my just debts funereal and testamentary expenses) unto and equally between my three nieces Ann Halliday Jane Halliday and Sarah Halliday and their respective heirs executors administrators and assigns to whom I bequeath the same [~~~ ~~~] in equal shares as tenants in common. In witness whereto I have hereunto set my hand this fourth day of December one thousand eight hundred and forty three.

[signed]

Signed by the said Thomas Halliday the testator in the presence of all who being present at the same time in this presence and in the presence of court [~~~] office have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses

[Maria Woodhouse] [Mary James]

Proved at London 11th January 1845 before the judge by the oath of Allan Preston the sole executor to whom [~~~] was granted having been first sworn by Commission duly to [~~~]

- Transcribed from the [U.K.] National Archives' reference PROB 11/2010/322

N.B. The production of numerous Canadian tokens has been attributed to Thomas Halliday (1771-1844). Whether those attributions are correct is a matter for research and debate, inasmuch as there has been a tendency to assign the production of a token to Halliday by default when any other attribution has failed or seemed unlikely. In his will, Halliday identifies himself as a die sinker, not an engraver or manufacturer. Halliday's will was discovered and transcribed by Jeff Osborne.

HAVE YOU FOUND A DUNLOP COIN?

Markus Molenda


The Dunlop Tire Company of Toronto announced in March 1903 that it had released countermarked coins into circulation for the express purpose of studying the movement of money. The announcement was, in fact, the beginning of an advertising campaign offering rewards for the return of these “Dunlop Coins.” The following is a description of the campaign and its results, the countermark, and the identity of the Canadian numismatist who may have been responsible for its creation.

\$100.00 FOR 50 CENTS!

Valuable Coins in Circulation.
\$15.⁵⁰ Now Worth \$400.⁰⁰

Where Does the Money Go?
The question has been asked of able financiers. “What becomes of all the money that disappears from circulation?” It is a well-known fact that many silver and copper coins issued from the mint pass out of sight and have to be replaced from time to time by new issues. This is also the case with bank notes. It has been stated that bills issued by the old Greenback era of circulation five over fifty years, are still being presented for redemption to the Canadian Bank of Commerce, into which the Greenback was merged.
The Dunlop Tire Co. of Toronto, believing that there is more rapidity of circulation and less loss in these strenuous commercial days, have decided to make an interesting test of the “quick returning power” of a number of Canadian coins. They will make an announcement within a few days which will be worth the attention of everybody—then from Local News.

The Dunlop Tire Company a short time ago started in circulation 171 silver coins, each of which bears stamped on its face a miniature of their registered trade mark. These coins have not been impaired nor lessened in any way. There were put into circulation a 50-cent piece, twenty 25-cent pieces, fifty 10-cent pieces, one hundred 5-cent pieces. No mistake can possibly be made in identifying any one of the coins.



THE TRADE MARK

REWARD FOR THEIR RETURN

For the **50-cent** piece we will pay **\$100.00** and also give to each finder a Dunlop Perforated Rubber Mat, with his or her initials or name in colored letters on it.

For the twenty **25-cent** pieces we will pay **\$5.00** each and also give to each finder a pair of Dunlop Bicycle Tires.

For the fifty **10-cent** pieces we will pay **\$2.00** each and also give to each finder a pair of Comfort Rubber Heels.

For the one hundred **5-cent** pieces we will pay **\$1.00** each on their being returned to us.

There is absolutely no restriction, other than that the coins must be presented before Jan. 1st, 1904. The reward will be paid to the person presenting the coin at our head office. If sent by mail the letter must be registered. In each case the possessor will be requested to state when and how the coin came into his or her possession.


THE DUNLOP TIRE CO., Limited,
MANUFACTURERS.
Pneumatic Bicycle and Carriage Tires; Solid Rubber Carriage Tires; Rubber Door Mats; Rubber Heels; Horseshoe Pads, and Rubber Goods.
TORONTO.  Ask for the Goods with the Dunlop Trade Mark.

Figure 1. Dunlop Tire Company Ad, *The Toronto World*, March 14, 1903: 7.

The Initial Announcement

The campaign started on March 13, 1903, with an article in *The Toronto World* asking, “What becomes of all the money that disappears from circulation?” The article concluded with the announcement that “The Dunlop Tire Co. of Toronto, believing that there is more rapidity of circulation and less loss in these strenuous commercial days, have decided to make an interesting test of the ‘quick returning power’ of a number of Canadian coins” (*The Toronto World*, March 13, 1903: 5). The next day, large advertisements started to appear in newspapers across Ontario and Quebec revealing the nature of the test. The company had countermarked exactly 171 Canadian silver coins (1x50¢, 20x25¢, 50x10¢, 100x5¢) with the Dunlop “two hands” trademark and then released them into circulation across the Dominion. The company was offering large

rewards to anyone returning one of these “Dunlop Coins” to the company office in Toronto prior to January 1, 1904, along with details of where the returned coin had been found.

The Advertising Blitz

In the weeks that followed the initial announcement, newspapers in Ontario and Quebec,⁴ and to a lesser extent in other provinces, were flooded with advertisements describing the Dunlop coin campaign and the associated catch phrase:

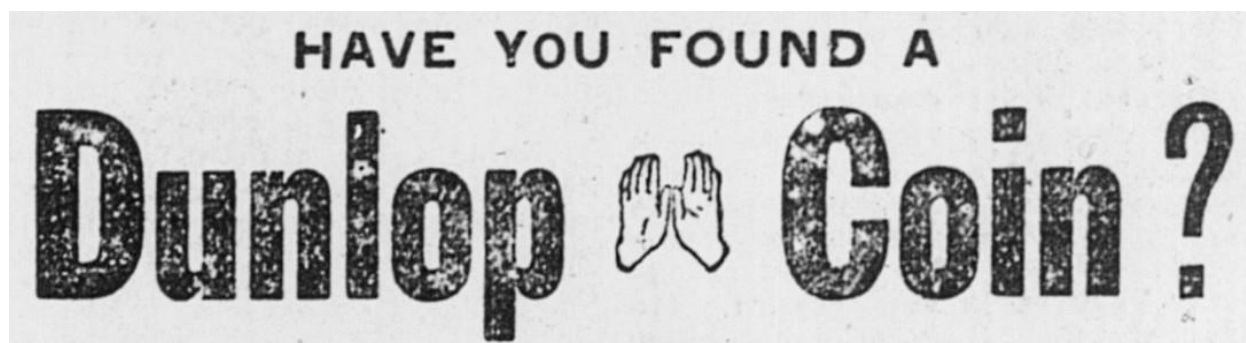


Figure 2. Dunlop Tire Company Slogan, *The Toronto World*, March 28, 1903: 3.

It took until March 30 for the first return of a Dunlop coin to be announced, the 50¢ coin worth \$100! The company quickly issued the 50¢ coin a second time, this time offering \$50 for its return. More announcements of winners followed, and by the end of April, a total of 16 Dunlop coins had been redeemed: 1x50¢, 4x25¢, 6x10¢, and 5x5¢.

DUNLOP LUCKY FINDERS OF SOME OF THE DUNLOP

Dunlop Coins.

The following are some of the famous Dunlop Coins—stamped with the Dunlop trade mark, a pair of uplifted hands—which have been returned to the Dunlop Tire Company, and for which the finders have received their rewards.

THE 50-CENT PIECE WORTH \$100.00.

The 50-cent piece which was sent as a donation to the Sick Children's Hospital was returned by Mr. J. P. Carlyle, of 187 Gerrard St. East, and he has received the Company's cheque for \$100.00 and a Dunlop Rubber Door Mat. To keep the interest up this piece was issued again and the company now offer

\$50.00 for the return of the 50-Cent Piece.

Twenty 25-Cent Pieces worth \$5.00 and a Pair of Dunlop Detachable Tires Each.

Of these twenty coins four have been returned, and the rewards paid for them.

Mr. Wm. Elder, of the Toronto Telegram, returned the one which was spent in McConkey's, Toronto.

Mr. J. Mitchell, 52 Hayden St., Toronto, returned the one which was sent to the Salvation Army at Hamilton.

Mr. F. Kinnear, of 35 Brock Ave., Toronto, returned the coin that was spent on stamps in Peterboro.

Mr. Philip Dykes, 9 Toronto St., returned the quarter that was sent to the Salvation Army at Stratford.

Figure 3. Excerpt of Dunlop Tire Company Ad, *The Toronto World*, April 25, 1903: 5.

⁴ The Dunlop advertisements outside of Ontario included the same lists of winners that appeared in Ontario newspapers. Remarkably, the lists stated that all of the returned coins had originally been released in locations in Ontario. It suggests that all of the Dunlop coins were possibly only released in Ontario, contrary to the company's declaration that they had put them into circulation “across the Dominion.”

From May to July, the Dunlop coin advertisements decreased in number and so did the return rate of the Dunlop coins; by the end of July, the total number of returned coins had risen to 31 coins (*The Sherbrooke Examiner*, July 29, 1903). In the months that followed, the company effectively stopped promoting the Dunlop coin campaign and very few additional Dunlop coins were reported. The last total was announced at the end of September, when it had reached a mere 35 coins (*Winnipeg Free Press*, Sep 25, 1903). Perhaps not surprisingly, neither the final total of returned coins, nor the conclusions to be drawn about the flow of money, was ever published. After all, the advertising blitz had served its purpose long before the January 1, 1904, deadline had passed.

The Two-Hands Countermark

The Dunlop Tire Company advertisements did not include an image of the exact countermark applied to the Dunlop coins. Instead they described it in general terms as a miniature of the company's registered trademark (two hands, side by side, with the palms facing the viewer, and the thumbs touching). Some of the advertisements also contained sample images of the trademark that matched the basic trademark description, but varied in their details from one ad to the next. As such it was unclear which one of these sample images, if any, represented the actual countermark.

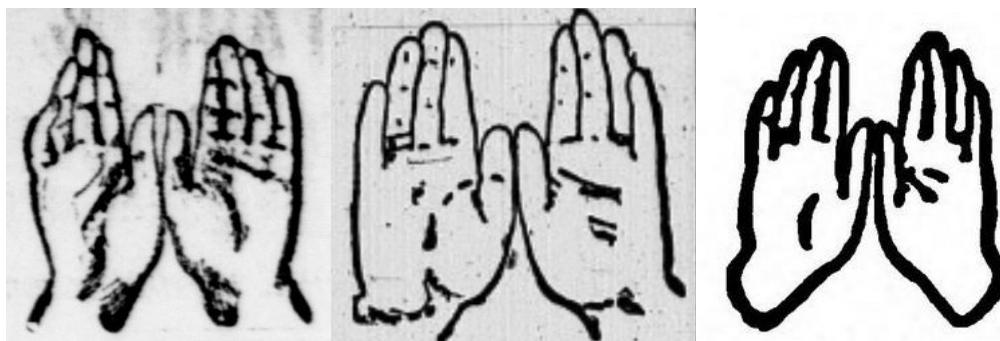


Figure 4a.

Figure 4b.

Figure 4c.

Figures 4a-c. Trademark Varieties in 1903 Dunlop coin Ads

4a. *The Daily Free Press* (London), May 6, 1903. 4b. *The Montreal Herald*, April 11, 1903. 4c. *The Daily Gleaner* (Fredericton), March 28, 1903.

The mystery of the exact countermark was finally resolved when the first, and so far only example of a Dunlop coin was reported in 2016 by Harry N. James, an 1886 Canada 5¢ coin with a small two-hands countermark (approx. 2.5 mm x 2.5 mm) belonging to the collector Terry Bishop that matches the Dunlop Tire Company trademark (James 2016: 23-24).



Figure 5a. Two-Hands Countermark on 1886 Canada 5¢. Courtesy Terry Bishop.



Figure 5b. Detail of the Two-Hands Countermark in Figure 5a.

No other types of two-handed countermarks in the particular shape of the Dunlop Tire Company trademark have been reported by cataloguers, and the company is not likely to have produced multiple stamps for a mere 171 coins (Brunk 2003). This one reported mark is almost certainly the one and only used for all of the Dunlop coins.

Additional Marks and their Purpose

Closer inspection of the Bishop coin reveals two additional marks, a deeply struck circular punch mark below the bust at 6 o'clock on the obverse, and the number 43 lightly scratched into the field of the reverse of the coin.



Figure 6a. Circular punch mark.
Detail from Figure 5a.



Figure 6b. Scratched-in number 43.
Detail from Figure 5a.

It is possible for these two marks to be unrelated to the Dunlop countermark. However, it is more likely that they were applied by the Dunlop Tire Company as they would have provided two features the company required: the ability to link each coin to its original release location, and the ability to detect counterfeit Dunlop coins.

The Dunlop announcements of the various prize winners included the exact locations where the returned Dunlop coins had been released into circulation. That implies that each of the 171 coins exhibited a unique characteristic that could be linked to a specific location. Either of the additional marks could have been used to identify uniquely each coin. For example, one could use the location of the punch mark, in combination with the denomination and the date of the coin, to identify each coin.⁵ This approach, while viable, would require time-consuming precision in its application and the purchase of groups of coins with specific dates. Alternatively, in a far simpler approach, a unique scratched-in number could have been used to identify each coin. No particular coin dates would have been required, and no particular care would have been necessary to apply each number somewhere on the coin. Given its ease of use, this second method would seem to be the likelier one to have been used to track the various Dunlop coins to their release locations.

⁵ The coin denominations naturally divide the 171 coins into smaller groups, with the one hundred 5¢ coins forming the largest group to be subdivided further. One can use the coin dates to divide the one hundred coins into smaller groups, for example, by using 10 coins dated 1902, 10 coins dated 1901, etc. Finally, the location of the punch mark could be used to identify uniquely each of the 10 coins in each date group. For example, the location could be categorized by the side it is on (obverse or reverse), and where on the side it is located (say, at the 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12 o'clock positions). The countermarker would then have to assure that each coin would have a unique combination of denomination, date, and punch mark locations.

The possibility of counterfeit Dunlop coins must have been of concern to the company. After all, it would have been easy for someone to create a stamp of the trademark, countermark a few high denomination coins, and claim a large reward. It would explain why the company chose not to publicize the exact shape of the countermark and not to reveal the additional marks on the coins. Again, either of the two additional marks could have served as a counterfeit detection device, that is, any supposed Dunlop coin without the marks would have been rejected. However, the lightly scratched-in numbers could have become unintelligible due to wear or additional scratches. So, it is likely that the deep punch mark, which was unlikely to be obscured, was intended as the principal anti-counterfeiting device.

Hopefully, additional examples of Dunlop coins will be found. If they also exhibit the two additional marks that would confirm that Dunlop applied them with the likely purpose of tracking the coins and detecting counterfeits.

A Counterfeit Dunlop Coin

It appears that some counterfeiting of the Dunlop coins did indeed occur. The following example of a two-hands countermark on a pre-1903 Canadian 5¢ coin exhibits the basic features of a Dunlop coin. However, the two-hands mark clearly differs from the Dunlop countermark, and the coin has neither a tracking number nor a punch mark. Consequently, this coin would not have been accepted by the Dunlop Tire Company.



Figure 7a. Two-Hands Countermark on 1901 Canada 5¢. Collection of the author.



Figure 7b. Detail of the countermark from Figure 7a.

Of course, just like the counterfeiter, the public in general would not have known about the exact shape of the countermark, nor about the additional features. That means that the secret features that protected the company did not protect anybody else. So if a counterfeiter could not defraud the Dunlop Tire Company directly, then he could still try to profit from a member of the public. For example, someone might have been tempted to accept the coin at a premium believing that they could themselves send the coin in for its prize money.

Legal Consequences

The Dunlop advertising campaign did not just attract the attention of newspaper readers, but also that of the Canadian Departments of Justice and Finance. The departments were concerned that the Dunlop countermark amounted to a defacing of Canadian coinage for advertising purposes. However, section 476 of the Criminal Code, 1892, stated: “Every one who utters any coin defaced by having stamped thereon any names or words is guilty of an offence, and liable, on summary conviction before two justices of the peace to a penalty not exceeding ten dollars.” Consequently, it was concluded that the Dunlop countermark did not violate the letter of the law for it did not consist of “names or words” (Graham 1993: 100).

To address the loophole, an amended version of section 476 was proposed in Bill 215 (first

reading June 29, 1903): “Every one who utters any coin defaced by having stamped thereon any *names, words, letters or numerals, or any figures, devices or marks* is guilty of an offence, and liable, on summary conviction before two justices of the peace to a penalty not exceeding ten dollars.” The bill, and section 476 in particular, was discussed at length in the House of Commons with the Dunlop Tire Company campaign explicitly mentioned on several occasions. On July 15, 1903, the bill received second reading, and was considered in the Committee of the Whole, with progress having been made and reported. The bill was again considered in the Committee of the Whole on several occasions, but did not receive a third reading. On October 23, 1903, Bill 215 was withdrawn on motion of Mr. Charles Fitzpatrick, Minister of Justice (House of Commons Debates, 1903).

A Collector of Canadian Coins and Tokens

The idea of using countermarked coins with tracking and anti-counterfeiting features to study the movement of money in Canada suggests that its creator was someone in the Dunlop Tire Company who had an interest in Canadian numismatics. The Toronto City directory of 1903 lists a total of 17 employees of the company, and one name stands out among them: Wm A Shaw, travelling salesman.

William Allen Shaw (1862-1932) was a collector of Canadian coins and tokens active at the beginning of the twentieth century. His name first appeared in *The Numismatist* of April 1901 when he applied for membership in the ANA, to become member no. 298 in May 1901. However, he may have been active prior to that date as he declared in an introductory letter to the Philadelphia coin dealers S. H. & H. Chapman, dated April 29, 1901, that he was already “known to do business with the following: Dr. Courteau – St. Jacques, Rev. J. M. Goodwillie – Metcalfe, W. K. Hall – Peterboro, W. T. Smith – Sarnia, Jos. Hooper” (Chapman Brothers Correspondence, 1901).



Figure 8. W. A. Shaw card. Toronto Coin Expo Fall Sale 2017 – part of lot 451.
Courtesy Geoffrey Bell Auctions. <http://www.gbellauctions.com/>

By 1905, his collection had grown to include such token rarities as the “side-views,” the “sheaf of wheat,” “Lauzon,” etc. (Frey 1905: 11-12). However, W. A. Shaw had let his ANA membership lapse by that time, and he did not appear in the ANA membership lists of 1905, 1907, 1910, and 1912. He apparently withdrew from Canadian numismatics in general at that time, never

to return (Banning 2024, private communications).

W. A. Shaw had joined the Dunlop Tire Company as a travelling salesman in about 1900 and remained with the company in that position until about 1912 (Toronto City Directories, 1899-1913). While he was not in a management position in 1903, he would have had the opportunity to suggest the advertising campaign within the relatively small company. The claim of W. A. Shaw's involvement in the campaign is speculative, but his numismatic background and his proximity to the events of 1903 do suggest a connection between him and the Dunlop coins.

Conclusion

The Dunlop advertising campaign of 1903 brought the company's name and their "two-hands" trademark to the attention of everyday newspaper readers across Canada. It took advantage of a loophole in the Canadian law on defacing coins that forbade the use of "names and words," but allowed the use of symbols. Moreover, by offering prize money for the return of the Dunlop coins, they were able to do so with a mere 171 countermarked coins. Not surprisingly, very few Dunlop coins appear to have survived to this day, and so the question of the ad campaign is also the question for collectors today: "Have you found a Dunlop Coin ?"

Acknowledgements

I would like to express my gratitude to Terry Bishop for providing the photos of his Dunlop coin, for his permission to use the photos in this article, and to Ted Banning for his insights into the life of W. A. Shaw.

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Research Notes and Queries

In recent years Canadian numismatics has seen the publication of a number of books on a range of subjects.

Barnes, Lorne. *Trade Tokens of Ontario*. Self-published, 2022. 808 pages. Index.

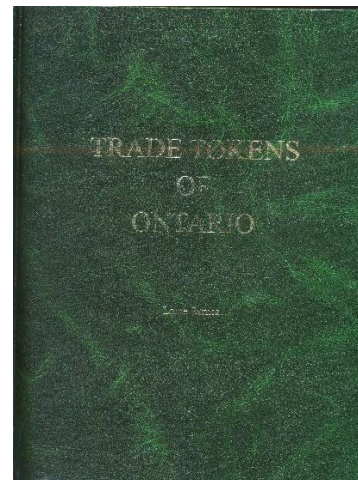
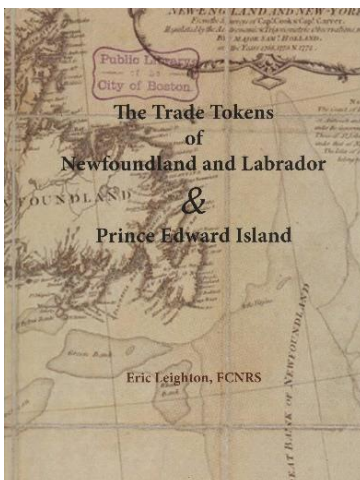
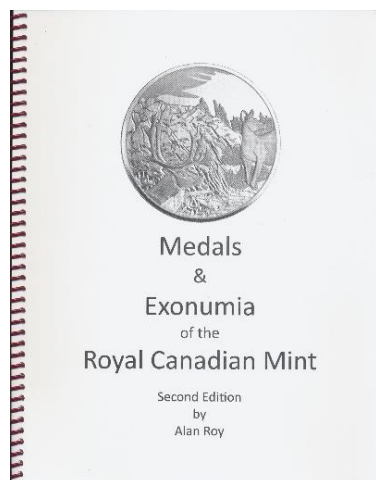
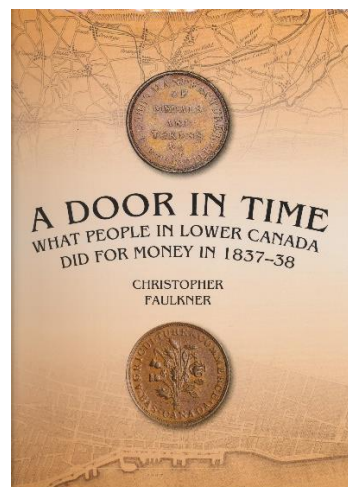
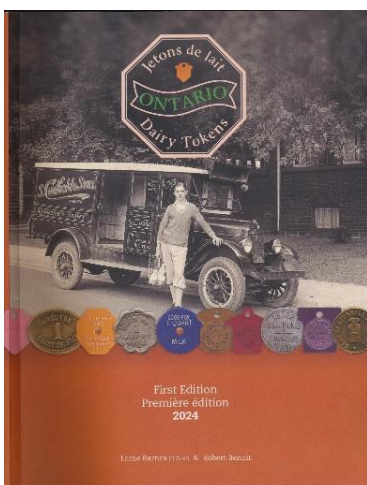
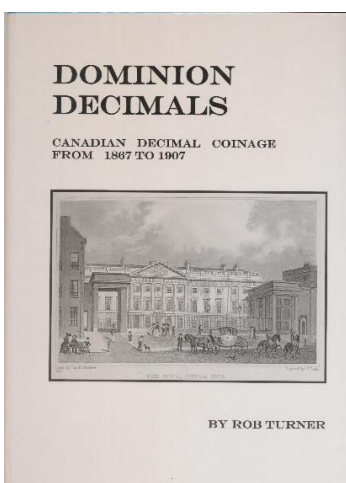
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Faulkner, Christopher. *A Door In Time: What People in Lower Canada Did for Money in 1837-38*. London: Spink, 2025. xii, 592 pages. Bibliography. Index.

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Turner, Rob. *Dominion Decimals: Canadian Decimal Coinage From 1867 to 1907*. Toronto: Royal Canadian Numismatic Association, 2024. xiv, 330 pages. Bibliography.



Fake 1814 George III Indian Chief Medal Debunked

Jacob Lipson



Figure 1. Fake Large-Size 1814 George III Indian Chief medal. Image courtesy of The Canadian Numismatic Company via numisbids.com

The authenticity of an 1814 George III Indian Chief medal has recently been debunked and serves as a cautionary tale for collectors: be diligent when examining and/or making purchasing decisions about these historical relics.

The medal in question was supposedly discovered in the Detroit River and was offered by Bonhams in February 2004, where the following footnote was included as part of the auction description: “This medal was found by a metal detectorist in the mud on the banks of the Detroit River in the 1990’s, and is offered to the collectors market for the first time.” The lot realized 3,760 British Pounds. It passed through unknown intermediaries before appearing in a Canadian Numismatic Company (TCNC) auction 20 years later in September 2024 (lot 821a). The lot went unsold and the medal supposedly traded hands several times before appearing in the inventory of a Quebec dealer.

Upon examining the medal in hand, several elements immediately struck the author as questionable. The letters forming the right obverse legend, especially IARVM REX, seemed incompletely defined. The surfaces exhibited a certain roughness – not corrosion, but rather the characteristic porosity of a cast product. The hanger was incorrect, which is common among awarded medals that have had their loops replaced, but incongruously crude. The medal felt underweight in hand and weighed 85 grams or so on a pocket scale. Legitimate 1814 representatives fall in the range of 120 to 122 grams and show strong high-relief design elements and smooth fields without porosity. Additionally, this piece did not match the sterling silver alloy setting when placed on a Sigma Metalitics precious metals verifier. Finally – and perhaps most

glaring – was an area of chipped silver plating just beside the hanger that revealed underlying brassy surfaces.



Figure 2. Comparison of portrait detail and lettering on the fake medal (left, image courtesy of Bonhams.com) and a genuine medal (right, image courtesy of the author).

An enticing origin story was used to legitimize this fake. The tactic is one that should raise suspicion. A February 17, 2004, article from *The Canadian Press* entitled “Rare 1814 Medal for Sale” explains: “If it hadn't been for a treasure hunter scanning a muddy Detroit River bank with a metal detector, a rare medal believed to date to the War of 1812 may have been lost forever. Although the medal's history is difficult to trace because of how it was found, experts at Bonhams auctioneers in London believe the silver medallion minted for a Canadian First Nations chief is a



Figure 3. An original 76mm 1814 George III Peace medal. Images courtesy of the author.

rare find.” It was reported at the time that the medal was owned by “an anonymous Canadian collector.” Tempting as it may sound, the provenance provided was notably lacking in specifics. No exact date or location of the discovery was provided. There were no images of the discovery

site or the circumstances of the find. The story was bogus. So is the medal. As always, *caveat emptor* -- buyer beware.

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The Canadian Press [Ottawa], February 17, 2004.

Archives, Museums, Libraries

Ferryland Interpretation Centre
Colony of Avalon Foundation
1 The Pool Road
P.O. Box 119
Ferryland, NL
Canada A0A 2H0
(709) 432-3200
www.colonyofavalon.ca

“Established in 1621 by Sir George Calvert (the First Lord Baltimore), the Colony of Avalon is widely recognized as the best preserved early English colonial site in North America.” Among the thousands of artifacts that document the history of Newfoundland are, of course, coins and tokens. Because of what they tell us of British settlement in the seventeenth century, among the most important finds are the coins unearthed at Ferryland, a fishing village on the Avalon Peninsula about 80 kilometres south of St. John’s. Archaeological work has turned up coins and tokens from various European and New World locations, with the majority from Britain and France. Thirteen lead tokens were found at Ferryland. The most identifiable were issued by Sir David Kirke (ca. 1597- ca. 1654), the first Governor of Newfoundland, who brought out 100 settlers and was on the island from 1639 to 1651. These are the first known tokens for a British settlement in North America. Kirke’s tokens were cast in lead and stamped with his initials. Kirke tokens in three different sizes, which may represent three different denominations, have been discovered at Ferryland. All of these finds can be seen at the site’s Interpretation Centre, which is open during the season until September 15 every year.



Images courtesy of the Ferryland Archaeology Project and the Colony of Avalon Foundation. Our thanks to Dr. Barry Gaulton.

Obituaries From Yesteryear: Aaron Rosenthal, 1831-1909

Originally published in *The Ottawa Citizen*, October 2, 1909: 1.

Mr. Rosenthal Dead

Head of Big Jewelry Firm
and Esteemed Citizen

Mr. Aaron Rosenthal, head of the firm of A. Rosenthal and Sons, and one of Ottawa's most estimable business men, died at 3.30 yesterday afternoon at Aylmer apartments. Mr. Rosenthal had been in failing health for several years, and last fall with Mrs. Rosenthal he went South for his health. The change, however, had not the desired effect and early in May he returned and went out to The Pebbles, his summer home at Britannia. His condition here became worse and he moved into Aylmer apartments, Slater street. All that skilled medical attendance and careful nursing could accomplish was done but without permanent improvement. About a week ago his condition



Ottawa Jewish Archives 1-897-02

became critical and a consultation of several physicians was held but without avail. For the last couple of days the family knew that his death was inevitable and yesterday morning his condition was such that he said goodbye to all the members of his family, calling each by name. From then he gradually sank till the end at 3.30 o'clock in the afternoon.

He is survived by his widow and four sons, Adolph, Ald. Samuel, Martin and Harry. Another son predeceased him.

The funeral will take place on Sunday morning. Prayers will be said at the family residence, the Aylmer apartment, at 7.45 o'clock by Rabbi Mirsky, and the remains will be taken by the G.T.R. 8.30 train to Montreal where interment will be made.

The late Aaron Rosenthal was born in Lobsney, Germany [Lobsenz, Prussia], 78 years ago, and much of his early life was spent in Australia, India and other countries. He had also visited Canada and in 1875 with his family he came to Canada to reside, settling in Montreal. Here he was very successful in the wholesale jewelry business and in 1878 he came to Ottawa beginning business first in a small way. The

business prospered from the first till it assumed its present large proportions. About seven years ago he took his sons into partnership with him and the present firm name was created. He was a member of several societies but did not aspire to a prominent part in them. He was, however, particularly active in benevolent societies and in charity of all kinds, quite irrespective of creed or nationality.

In business circles his sterling qualities of honesty and uprightness, his marked business acumen and kindly disposition won him the admiration of all his business associates. But it was not only in business circles that he will be missed. While he was a man of a retiring nature, his charity was unbounded and his aid was ever given to private and public charities. There are very many in Ottawa whom he has benefited in numerous ways, and they will particularly regret his death.

Note: Despite claims to the contrary, there is no evidence that Rosenthal & Sons either struck or issued medals. The Rosenthal firm did not have the equipment to strike medals. What they did do was act as agents and distributors on behalf of government departments and local clients. This was the case with the Treaty 10, Île-à-la-Crosse, Saskatchewan, Chief's medal in bronze and silver of 1906 and 1907. This 75 mm medal was probably struck in England. The edge is stamped ROSENTHAL in incuse letters. The names of the engravers of the obverse and reverse of this medal have yet to be determined and await further research.

There are also a number of Ottawa medals evidently distributed by Rosenthal & Sons with their name stamped incuse. These include the Ottawa Humane Society award for bravery and the Ottawa Kennel Club medal. Because they were adept silversmiths (examples of their silverware are in the Ottawa Jewish Archives), they were commissioned sometime in the nineteenth century to fashion gold and silver awards in the shape of a miniature life buoy to honour rescues at sea for the Department of the Marine and Fisheries. These are very attractive, but they are not struck, they are worked.



Obv. Treaty 10 Bronze Medal.



Rev. Treaty 10 Bronze Medal.

Courtesy Library and Archives Canada ID 2851159

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